



Notable Facts: Did you Know?

The First Salmon was an important feast honoring the salmon. Coastal tribes believe the salmons chose to sacrifice themselves for humans so their spirits could go on to live again like humans, in houses under the sea.

Because the Northwest Coast Indians had no written language, the totem poles were a very important part of their culture. The totem poles allowed them to record stories, legends, and myths through images.

-Coast Salish Tribes



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coast_Salish_peoples

November 2015 Native American & Alaskan Native Heritage Month

By WCC DAC

The Longhouse Education and Cultural Center at the Evergreen State College



The "House of Welcome" Longhouse Education and Cultural Center is a public service center at The Evergreen State College. Built in collaboration with Northwest tribes, it is the first building of its kind on a public campus in the United States. The Longhouse is a multi-purpose facility, able to serve a variety of educational, cultural and community functions. Founded upon a vision of hospitality and service, it is a gathering place for people of all cultural backgrounds to teach and learn with each other.

The Longhouse promotes indigenous arts and culture at a local, national, and international level. In 1996, the Longhouse began a partnership with six local tribes to administer a Native economic development arts initiative. Since then, their services have expanded along with their geographical reach. They host native art sales, exhibitions and performances. They provide marketing services to artists. Through residency programs with master artists, they inspire new artists to develop their abilities and established artists to expand their capacities.

The Longhouse host convenings of indigenous artists and arts organizations from North America and around the Pacific Rim. They mentor other Native arts organizations and provide programs to give individual artists resources for artistic and professional growth. With support from the Ford Foundation, the Longhouse's Native arts program expanded beyond the Northwest region into a national grant-making program for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian artists. During the same time frame, the Longhouse established an international indigenous residency program with the New Zealand government's Ministry of Culture.

<http://evergreen.edu/longhouse/>